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PRICES OF GRAIN, &c.*

| | | s. | d. | | s. | d. | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------------------------------------|
| LIVERPOOL, January 18th, 1814. | Wheat, English,..... | 12 | 0 | to | 13 | 0 | per 70 lbs. |
| | Foreign,..... | 11 | 6 | to | 13 | 0 | do. |
| | Irish,..... | 11 | 3 | to | 12 | 0 | do. |
| | Barley, English,..... | 6 | 3 | to | 6 | 9 | per 60 lbs. |
| | Irish and Scotch | 5 | 0 | to | 6 | 6 | do. |
| | Oats, Potato,..... | 4 | 6 | to | 4 | 8 | per 45 lbs. |
| | Welsh,..... | 4 | 6 | to | 0 | 0 | do. |
| | Limerick,..... | 4 | 6 | to | 4 | 7 | do. |
| | Malt, fine, new,..... | 12 | 0 | to | 12 | 3 | per 36 qrts. |
| | old,..... | 11 | 0 | to | 11 | 6 | do. |
| | Oatmeal,..... | 40 | 0 | to | 42 | 0 | per 240 lbs. |
| DUBLIN, Jan. 21st 1814. | Wheat,.... | 32 | 0 | to | 46 | 0 | middle price 41 0 per brl. of 20 st. |
| | Barley,.... | 25 | 0 | to | 28 | 0 | 26 0 per brl. of 16 st. |
| | Oats,..... | 16 | 0 | to | 20 | 0 | 17 0 per brl. of 14 st. |
| | Oatmeal,... | 16 | 0 | to | 22 | 0 | 19 3¼ per cwt. of 112 lb. |
| PORTADOWN, Jan. 22d, 1814. | Wheat,.... | 15 | 6 | to | 16 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Barley,.... | 12 | 0 | to | 0 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Oats,..... | 8 | 0 | to | 8 | 6 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Oatmeal,... | 19 | 6 | to | 0 | 0 | per cwt. of 120 lbs. |
| | Potatoes,... | 0 | 2½ | to | 0 | 0 | per stone. |
| DROGHEDA, Dec. 24th, 1813. | Wheat,.... | 38 | 0 | to | 44 | 0 | per barrel of 20 st. |
| | Barley,.... | 25 | 0 | to | 27 | 0 | per barrel of 20 st. |
| | Oats,..... | 13 | 6 | to | 17 | 0 | per barrel of 14 st. |
| | Oatmeal,... | 16 | 0 | to | 17 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| LISBURN, Jan. 25th, 1814. | Oats,..... | 8 | 0 | to | 9 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Oatmeal,... | 16 | 0 | to | 17 | 0 | per cwt. of 120 lbs. |
| | Potatoes,... | 0 | 2½ | to | 0 | 0 | per stone. |
| BELFAST, Dec. 24th, 1813. | Wheat,.... | 14 | 0 | to | 15 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Barley,.... | 10 | 0 | to | 14 | 0 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Oats,..... | 8 | 6 | to | 9 | 6 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |
| | Oatmeal,... | 15 | 5 | to | 16 | 2 | per cwt. of 112 lbs. |

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

"The present contest, by its long protraction, has so brutalized a large portion of the community, that *War*, in a moral sense, has no horrors, nor has *Peace* any charms. Both states are contemplated rather as they affect the *markets*, than as they affect the *morals and happiness of mankind!*" LIVERPOOL MERCURY.

The foregoing quotation, forms, in the present times, an appropriate motto to a com.

* The prices of grain, &c. have this month considerably advanced, in consequence of the depth of the snow having prevented the usual supply from coming to market.

mercial report. War is a dreadful trade, and produces the worst effects on the general system of morals. It also deranges other trades, and involves mercantile concerns in all the uncertainties arising from the vicissitudes attendant on this, the present grand staple trade of the country.

Brown linens continue to advance, and the high prices give no other prospect for the ensuing year's trade, than the usual concomitant of brown linens being too dear; a stagnation of sales owing to the linens going dear to market; a consequent loss to the holders; and a general derangement of the trade, as in 1799, and 1809, from which it does not recover for several years. The effects of the latter year are still felt. The factors in London contribute in an eminent degree to this periodical unsettling of the trade. They are sure of their commission, let things turn out as they may, and in this confidence, they are now urging their correspondents to purchase, regardless of prices, and too many yield a ready facility to their inconsiderate advice, and after having got rid of their last dear linens, uninstructed by experience, are eagerly rushing forward to repeat their former error, and supply themselves with a fresh stock, laid in on terms much too high for the prospect of demand.

A large proportion of coarse linens is sent from this country to England and Scotland in a brown state. Many of these are bleached in the neighbourhood of London, and the good people there think they are by this means secure of getting strong linens. In some cases there may be just cause to complain of the Irish bleach, because the English required too high a white, and very high colours must always be obtained more or less at the expense of strength. The present practice of preferring the English bleach is founded on whim and prejudice. For if the Londoners would be satisfied to take Irish bleached linens of the same degree of colour, as pleases them in their own favourite home bleach, there would be no cause of complaint of want of strength in our bleach. The English bleached linens are sent to market in a damper state, and thus have the appearance of being thicker, while our Irish bleach would be mildewed on the passage, if they were sent to market in a similar state of dampness.

Lord Castlereagh's famous bill to render the notes of the national banks of England and Ireland a legal tender for the amount marked on them, has not stopped their real depreciation, or settled the question in favour of those who assert that no depreciation has taken place. Gold in Bullion in the London market is at £5 12s. per ounce, and silver 7s. 6d. It is easy to find the value of a note nominally for a guinea, by a simple stating in the rule of three, taking the mint price of 13 17 10½; thus:

$$£5\ 12s. : £1\ 2s.\ 9d. :: £3\ 17s.\ 10\frac{1}{2}d. = 15s.\ 10d.$$

The real depreciation is thus found to be 6s. 11d. per guinea. The price given by the dealers in guineas in this country, is no criterion of the real value of a golden guinea. They make as much as they can of their trade, and it being a forbidden one, both to buyer and seller, affords to them a greater facility of fixing their own terms. But some idea of the profit made in this traffic may be formed, by comparing the premium they now allow of 3s. to 3s. 6d. on a guinea, with the foregoing state of the comparative value of a guinea in paper and in gold. The Earl of Lauderdale, in his new work, argues in favour of the propriety of issuing a fresh coinage at the standard of £5 8s. per ounce, and thus the guinea would be of a proportionably less weight. To support his argument, he alleges in case of recurring again to cash payments, the hardship which would result from entitling the creditor of the state, and the private creditor, to be paid the full value in coin at the present rate, for debts now contracted in a depreciated currency. In the present state of things, by Lord Castlereagh's act, the creditors under old contracts have been injured: in the case contemplated by Lord Lauderdale, unless the standard of the coinage were lowered, debtors in their turn would be injured, by being obliged to pay full amount in a restored currency, when the value was given in a depreciated one. Lord Lauderdale's reasoning is not without some fairness, but a practical objection occurs; if the intrinsic value of the coined guinea is once lowered, what is to prevent a recurrence of another process of depreciation, similar to that we have already experienced? The banks may again be protected from paying in specie, and thus depreciation may again and again take place, even though the value of the guinea were repeatedly lowered. In this point of view, the evil and the crash of public credit, which perhaps must inevitably take place, would be only delayed, not prevented. The consideration of the subject, viewed in whatever manner, presents innumerable dif-

scilities, and affords very slender sources of consolation to the reflecting, and justly apprehensive mind. National bankruptcy is a portentous and alarming prospect. If this picture should ever be realized, we owe it, as the consummation of evils, to the effects of the war, of which so many are heedlessly and unreflectingly fond, and for the continuance of which they so strenuously plead.

Exchange on London has varied through this month from 4 to 4½ per cent.

An account, extracted from the reports of the County Inspectors, of the flax crops of 1813, is subjoined.

A brief Extract from the Reports of the County Inspectors upon the Flax Crops of 1813.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM (*North*).—"The quantity of Flaxseed sown in this District is estimated at 1150 hhds., 50 of which were home-saved, 200 English, 450 Riga, and 450 American; which seed is supposed to have occupied about 2000 acres, which is much the same as last year. The quantity of seed saved is from 80 to 100 hhds. The flax in general not so good this year as last."

—(*South*).—"The quantity of flaxseed sown in this district is estimated at 1100 hhds., the half of which was English, the residue Dutch and American. This seed is supposed to have occupied 2000 acres. These quantities less than those of the year preceding. The quality of the crops this year not held to be altogether equal to those of the last, and but little seed is saved."

ARMAGH.—"The quantity sown in this county is estimated at 6300 hhds., of which 5000 were American, 160 Riga, 140 British, and 1000 home saved. This seed is supposed to have occupied 14700 acres. These quantities less than those of the preceding year. The quality of the crops this year tolerably good, from which 1650 hhds. are thought to have been saved. Riga a favourite with the growers, the stalks of the flax not being found liable to fire as those of the American, but both considered inferior to the flax of the home saved seed."

LONDONDERRY.—"The quantity sown in this county is estimated at 5590 hhds., of which 2067 were Riga, 1690 American, 1689 English and Dutch, and 144 home saved. This seed is supposed to have occupied 13048 acres. The quality and general appearance of the crops (with few exceptions,) remarkably good."

TYRONE (*North*).—"The quantity sown in this district is estimated at 892 hhds., of which 434 were American, 200 home saved, 173 English, and 86 Riga; which is supposed to have occupied 1562 acres. The quantity sown supposed to be one third less than last year. The quantity saved 250 hhds. The flax crops in general good this season."

—(*South*).—"The quantity sown in this district is estimated at 1465 hhds., of which 865 were American, 125 Riga, 321 British, and 214 home saved. This seed is supposed to have occupied 2700 acres. These quantities are thought to be less, nearly by one half, than those of the preceding year. The quality of the crops in the present year has been considerably better than their appearance in the early part of the season gave reason to expect. 1050 hhds. are supposed to have been saved. The growers appear to take more pains than formerly to save their seed well, and with more success."

DONEGALL.—"The quantity sown in this county is estimated at 2250 hhds., of which 1000 were American, 450 Riga, 200 British, and 600 home saved seed; which is supposed to have occupied 2700 acres. These quantities are less than those of the preceding year. The Crops this year are admitted to be but indifferent, particularly those from the late sown. The real English Seed has grown well, and satisfied the Farmers; but a large quantity of Seed was brought into the County from Derry, as English Seed, which did not grow, and which, it is now apprehended, was from the Baltic. About 1150 hhds. are supposed to have been saved."

DOWN (*North*).—"The quantity sown in this district is estimated at 1787 hhds., of which 1199 were American, 42 British, and 496 home saved, which is supposed to have occupied 3008 acres. These quantities one fourth less than those of last year. The appearance of the Crops remarkably good; but they did not yield proportionably to their appearance; 359 hhds. have been saved."

Down (South).—"The quantity sown this year has not been estimated, but it is reported to have been considerably less than last year. The greatest proportion of it was American. No seed is reported to have been saved."

FERMANAGH.—"The quantity sown in this County is estimated at 1000 hhds., 800 of which were from America and Riga, 100 British, and 100 home saved Seed, which is supposed to have occupied 1750 acres. These quantities are less than those of the preceding year. The Crops looked very well, but some of the Seed was sown too late. A large portion of American Seed is supposed to have been mixed with that which was sown for Riga, in this County. The Inspecting Officer was inclined to be of that opinion at the period of examination, in which he has been since confirmed, by many of the growers informing him, that their Crops were all of unequal lengths. 50 hhds. are supposed to have been saved."

MONAGHAN.—"The quantity sown in this County is estimated at 3150 hhds., which is supposed to have occupied 6300 acres. The quantity sown this season is more than that of last year, but the Crops not so productive, nor is the quality so good. It is in great demand, however, at present, the price from 11s. 6d. to 14s. per stone. 1000 hhds. are supposed to have been saved."

CAVAN.—"One third only of the usual quantity of Flaxseed is supposed to have been sown this year, and the quality of the Crops inferior to that of former seasons. The uncertainty of procuring Seed caused many of the farmers to sow their ground intended for Flax with Grain. No Riga reached this County last spring. New American, particularly that from Boston and New York, produced well. The home-saved, where it was sufficiently ripe and early sown, yielded a Crop equal to the best American."

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From the 20th December, 1813, to the 20th January, 1814.

*From observations made in the neighbourhood of Belfast. Latitude 54° 35 min. 43 sec.
Longitude 5° 58 min. 14 sec. West of London.*

THE fatal effects of the great degree of cold which has of late prevailed, on the exotic plants, cannot as yet be ascertained; but every lover of the country must regret the destruction which has come upon the feathered creation, from the starvation, and the remorseless waste of their lives by those who, dead to every feeling of benevolence, take pleasure in inflicting pain and death on all within their power. It is to be feared, that many seasons must pass, before they recruit their numbers. Our groves and fields will not now, as heretofore, be filled with harmony, and those insects which have, in the state of eggs, or deep-buried larvæ, defied the severest cold, now that we are deprived of those guards who set bounds to their unlighted increase, will issue forth in unusual numbers, showing to thoughtless man, that the laws which govern the Universe are perfect!

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th December, 1813, to the 20th January, 1814.

*From observations made in the neighbourhood of Belfast. Latitude 54° 35 min. 43 sec.
Longitude 5° 58 min. 14 sec. West of London.*

JUDGING from the mild seasons which, for a series of years, we have experienced, we were led to believe, that such a change had taken place in our atmosphere, as would exempt us for ever from the rigours of Winter, to such a degree as had been felt by our forefathers; this Winter has, however, convinced us, that no dependence can be placed upon any calculations made from our present knowledge of Meteorology, and that until we can with certainty predict the course and continuance of the Winds, we